

## **MIKE MELTZER**

April 15, 2012

I joined the Monsanto Opto group in late '69 from General Elec. Co. in Los Angeles. I met George MacLeod the year before at an IEEE show in L.A. along with Ray Brown and Clarence Bruce. He told me of their plans to open the Opto facility in Cupertino. It sounded like wishful thinking and I had never heard of Cupertino. A year or two later it became a reality and George and I had dinner in LA and he asked me to join. At the time I had commitments in LA and could not move and it was agreed that I could work out of Los Angeles. In '72 I was offered the job of Sales Mgr. of the group and subsequently moved to the Bay Area.

Business cycles went through ups and downs with the likes of the calculator, watches, games etc. It was a very exciting time in the business and we grew rapidly and moved to Palo Alto location.

Over time, change was the word at Monsanto and they subsequently sold the business to GI. I elected to stay with Monsanto and went to work for Bill Reed selling materials. I remained with the Silicon group and it was sold to Huel AG and eventually spun off into a public company, MEMC. This turned out to be a pretty good deal for the employees and the stock rose sharply.

I retired in 1998. My wife and I have been traveling and cruising and enjoying life. All of my children, grandchildren live within five minutes of each other. Everyone leads amazing productive lives as attorneys and other professional roles. Sylvia and I were fortunate to purchase a small condo in SF a number of years ago and we spend considerable time in the city while keeping our home in Saratoga. We have fond memories of my early years with George and company and the friends we made at Monsanto.



Mike & Sylvia Meltzer 1975



Mike & Sylvia Meltzer March 2011